

Amendments to the Claims:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An image projection system comprising an illumination system for supplying an illumination beam, a modulation system for modulating said illumination beam in conformity with image information to be projected, and an optical system for projecting an image, said modulation system comprising at least one liquid crystalline image display panel having a first and a second polarizer between which a layer of TN (twisted nematic) liquid crystalline material is enclosed, characterized in that a single birefringence-compensating element is located between the layer of TN (twisted nematic) the liquid crystalline material and one of the two polarizers, which element has a tilted optical director profile whose projection in the plane of the polarizers encloses an angle φ different from 0 or 90 with the active rubbing direction of the layer.
2. (Original) An image projection system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the birefringence-compensating element is an element having a negative birefringence.
3. (Previously presented) An image projection system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that $0^\circ < |\varphi| \leq 15^\circ$.
4. (Previously presented) An image projection system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the element is present on that side of the liquid crystalline material where said material has its active rubbing direction.

5. (Previously presented) An image projection system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the element comprises a negative birefringent foil having a tilted optical director profile.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously presented) A head-mounted display comprising a liquid crystalline image display panel, an optical system for imaging an image in an observer's eye, and head-supporting means, characterized in that the liquid crystalline display panel is implemented as the image display panel in the image projection system as claimed in claim 1.

8. (Previously presented) A liquid crystalline image display panel for use in an image projection system, comprising a layer of TN (twisted nematic) liquid crystalline material which is enclosed between a first and a second polarizer, characterized in that the liquid crystalline image display panel is implemented as claimed in claim 1.

9. (New) The image projection system of claim 2, wherein $0^\circ < |\varphi| \leq 15^\circ$.

10. (New) The image projection system of claim 9, wherein the element is present on that side of the liquid crystalline material where said material has its active rubbing direction.

11. (New) The image projection system of claim 2, wherein the element is present on that side of the liquid crystalline material where said material has its active rubbing direction.

12. (New) The image projection system of claim 3, wherein the element is present on that side of the liquid crystalline material where said material has its active rubbing direction.

13. (New) The image projection system of claim 12, wherein the element comprises a negative birefringent foil having a tilted optical director profile.

14. (New) The image projection system of claim 3, wherein the element comprises a negative birefringent foil having a tilted optical director profile.

15. (New) The image projection system of claim 4, wherein the element comprises a negative birefringent foil having a tilted optical director profile.

16. (New) A head-mounted display comprising a liquid crystalline image display panel, an optical system for imaging an image in an observer's eye, and a head-support, wherein the liquid crystalline display panel is implemented as the image display panel in the image projection system as claimed in claim 2.

17. (New) A head-mounted display comprising a liquid crystalline image display panel, an optical system for imaging an image in an observer's eye, and a head-support, wherein the liquid crystalline display panel is implemented as the image display panel in the image projection system as claimed in claim 3.

18. (New) A head-mounted display comprising a liquid crystalline image display panel, an optical system for imaging an image in an observer's eye, and a head-support, wherein the liquid crystalline display panel is implemented as the image display panel in the image projection system as claimed in claim 4.

19. (New) A head-mounted display comprising a liquid crystalline image display panel, an optical system for imaging an image in an observer's eye, and a head-support, wherein the liquid crystalline display panel is implemented as the image display panel in the image projection system as claimed in claim 5.

20. (New) A liquid crystalline image display panel for use in an image projection system, comprising a layer of TN (twisted nematic) liquid crystalline material which is

enclosed between a first and a second polarizer, wherein the liquid crystalline image display panel is implemented as recited in claim 2.

21. (New) A liquid crystalline image display panel for use in an image projection system, comprising a layer of TN (twisted nematic) liquid crystalline material which is enclosed between a first and a second polarizer, wherein the liquid crystalline image display panel is implemented as recited in claim 3.

22. (New) A liquid crystalline image display panel for use in an image projection system, comprising a layer of TN (twisted nematic) liquid crystalline material which is enclosed between a first and a second polarizer, wherein the liquid crystalline image display panel is implemented as recited in claim 4.

23. (New) A liquid crystalline image display panel for use in an image projection system, comprising a layer of TN (twisted nematic) liquid crystalline material which is enclosed between a first and a second polarizer, wherein the liquid crystalline image display panel is implemented as recited in claim 5.